

Message Text

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67

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 IO-03 PM-03 DODE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 NSC-10 NSCE-00 L-02 PRS-01

DRC-01 /050 W

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R 141358Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3654

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MASERU 1276

LIMDIS

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR LT SF

SUBJ: SOUTH AFRICAN INFLUENCE IN LESOTHO

REF : A. USUN 4532

B. MASERU 1252

1. NO RPT NO MINISTERS HAVE LEFT CABINET THIS YEAR. MOLAPO PROBABLY REFERRING TO A.C. MANYELI WHO "RESIGNED" AS MINISTER OF WORKS IN JULY 1972. NO RPT NO REASON GIVEN AT TIME, BUT IN JULY 1973 MANYELI TOLD SABC THAT JONATHAN HAD FORCED HIS RESIGNATION BECAUSE OF MANYELI'S SUPPORT FOR SAG'S SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT POLICY. PM'S OFFICE CONFIRMED. MANYELI HAS SUBSEQUENTLY ISSUED PERIODIC STATEMENTS, WRITTEN LETTERS TO PRESS, ETC., CALLING FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH SAG. ONLY OTHER POSSIBILITY WOULD BE DAVID P.G. MAKOA, WHO REPLACED MANYELI AT WORKS BUT HIMSELF RESIGNED IN NOV 1972 (MASERU 1122). WE REMAIN CONVINCED OF REASONS (POTENTIAL PERSONAL SCANDAL) REPORTED AT TIME. ALSO, MAKOA HAS SINCE BEEN NAMED TO INTERIM NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND JUST INCLUDED AS MEMBER 6-MAN
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DELEGATION TO OPENING TANZANIA'S PARLIAMENT NOV 20. WE DOUBT,

THEREFORE, THAT MAKORAE IS MINISTER IN QUESTION.

2. POLICE OFFICER REFERRED TO PROBABLY FORMER COMMISSIONER OF POLICE FRED ROACH, WHO ALMOST CERTAINLY WAS ON SAG PAYROLL. ROACH, OUSTED BY PM JONATHAN IN MARCH 1972 (MASERU A-21, 1972). ABEL NAMOLI (MASERU A-58, 1972) SERVED 18 MONTHS AS ACTING COMMISSIONER. HE WAS RETIRED IN SEPTEMBER OF THIS YEAR, BUT WE BELIEVE IT SIMPLY ON GROUNDS GENERAL INEFFICIENCY. PRESENT ACTING COMMISSIONER IS B.A. NTOI. DOUBTFUL GOL WOULD HAVE APPOINTED, OR WOULD KEEP ON, IF HE KNOWN TO BE IN SAG EMPLOY.

3. WE CAN IDENTIFY INFORMATION OFFICER DEFINITELY AS H.M. MOTSOENE, DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION. AT TIME OF NOMINATION FOR LEADER GRANT (MASERU A-28, 1971) MOTSOENE TOLD EMBASSY HE FEARED ARREST ON OLD POLITICAL CHARGES IF HE ENTERED SA. EMBASSY UNAWARE HOW QUESTION FINALLY RESOLVED, BUT MOTSOENE DID IN FACT ACCEPT GRANT. SINCE HIS RETURN, MOTSOENE HAS RISEN TO DIRECTORSHIP OF INFORMATION DEPARTMENT AND AS FAR AS WE ABLE TO DETERMINE ENJOYS CONFIDENCE OF PM. IT SEEMS UNLIKELY HE WOULD BE TOLERATED IN PRESENT POSITION IF GOL AWARE HE PASSING INFO TO SAG.

4. FOREIGN AFFAIRS INFORMS US EXTRADITION TREATY WITH SAG UNDER NEGOTIATION, BUT THAT NONE EXISTS AT PRESENT. FRISBIE

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